



For Immediate Release
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Statement by Representative Seth McKeel on Today's Decision by the Presidential Preference Primary Committee

Tallahassee, Fla. – Representative Seth McKeel (R-Lakeland), Chairman of the House State Affairs Committee and a member of the Presidential Preference Primary Committee, today issued the following statement regarding the committee's selection of January 31, 2012, as Florida's presidential primary date.

"For many years, Florida's presidential primary has been held when presidential nominating contests have been all but decided. In 2012, as in 2008, Floridians will have an early say in the presidential primary process and have a meaningful opportunity to pick the next Republican candidate for President.

While it is true an early primary may cost Florida delegates, it is clear the positives outweigh the negatives. An early primary will empower Florida voters by providing the winner of the Florida primary with the momentum to take the nomination.

Make no mistake: the road to the White House in 2012 will be paved through Florida. By ensuring Florida remains at the start of our nation's presidential primary calendar, we are also ensuring the candidates will spend more time talking to Florida voters and addressing issues unique to Floridians. I look forward to hearing their ideas regarding the future of our nation."

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